Tourism Schemes in Tamil Nadu

4108. SHRI N. THALAVAI SUNDARAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state, the details of the various tourism sche mes being run by the Central Gov ernment in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM SHRI SR1KANTA KUMAR JENA): The Department of Tourism provides financial assistance to develop tourism infrastructure projects/Schemes to State/Union Territory Governments, these projects are maintained and operated by State Governments. During 1996-97, the Department of Tourism has sanctioned funds amounting to Rs. 190.20 lakhs for eleven projects to the Government of Tamil Nadu.

Setting up of branches of the Central Tourist Information Bureau

4109. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the Ministter of TOURISM be pleas ed to state:

(a) whether the branches of the Central-Tourists Information Bureau have been set up in different parts of country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along-with services being provided by same;

(c) whether Government propose to set up a branch thereof in Andhra Pradesh during the current financial year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIA MENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINIS TER OF TOURISM SHRI SRI KANTA. KUMAR JENA); (a) and (b) The Department of Tourism has 21 Tourist Offices in India situated at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Calcutta, Agra, Jaipur, Varanasi, Bhu-baneswar. Aurangabad, Bangalore, Cochin, Guwahati, Naharlagun (Ita-nagar), Panaji, Patna, Port Blair, Shillong, Khajuraho, Hyderabad, lm-phal, Thirunavanantnapuram for assisting and providing information to domestic and international tourists visiting the country.

(c) and (d) There is already a Government of India Tourist Office in Hyderabad.

Reveneu share fo Karnataka and Kerala States in Tourism Sector

4110. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the share of Karnataka and Kerala States in total Tourism revenue of the country;

(b) the amount earmarked for tourism sector in the annual plan budget of the States of Karnataka and Kerala, and

(c) what steps the Central Government have initiated to promote tourism in the ensuring Ninth Five Year Plan Period?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIA MENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINIS-TER OF TOURISM SHRI SR1KANTA KUMAR JENA): (a) The tax revenue earned by the Central Government by way of expenditure tax from tourists in the States of Karnataka & Goa, and Kerala & Lakshadeep was Rs. 23.44 crores and Rs. 174 crores respectively Separate figures for each State is not available.

(b) The plan outlay approved for tourism sector in the State plan of Karnataka, and Kerala during 1996-97 were Rs. 10.00 crores and Rs. 28.00 crores respectively.

(c) The steps initiated for the development of tourism during Ninth Plan period include improvement of ingrastructural facilities, devtelop-l ment of special tourism areas, pro-duct development and diversification, enhanced tourist facilitation, human resources development, promotion and marketing, etc.